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miration society in session, which adjourned only on the arrival of certain older members of my family. On nearly every pleasant day for the succeeding month we caught sight of him on one tree or another in the neighborhood, sometimes bearing a nut in his mouth, but oftener darting about as if simply enjoying himself among the variegated autumn leaves.

Our respect for this fellow-tenant of our grounds was greatly increased one day, when a neighbor, hearing us speak of him, told us how it came about that we enjoyed the pleasure of the little fellow's company. In this neighbor's yard stood a large tree on whose top was a stump left by a decayed and broken limb. One day it was determined to trim up this tree with some thoroughness. The workmen brought their ladder and began. Soon there appeared upon the scene a much disturbed gray squirrel. Excitement was evident in every movement as the trimming proceeded. Finally the workmen left their work for the day. When all had become quiet, my neighbor was privileged to see a curious sight—one which I cannot remember seeing or hearing described before. It was the removal of a squirrel family to a new home. The old squirrel seized each young one by the nape of the neck, while the little one threw its tail about the parent's neck, as if to hold on. Then the old one, with its precious freight, descended the tree to a boundary fence, and, by characteristic hops and runs, arrived at a hollow tree top between my house and my barn. Two or three such journeys were observed before the whole family was domiciled in the new quarters.

Whether this burden-bearer was the male or the female, I know not. Perhaps some reader of *Science* can

tell me. Indeed, I do not know whether there are a pair of the old squirrels here or not. We have never been able to observe two together. It is plain that the old squirrel came to the conclusion that its young were unsafe in the former home. Was this an inference from observation of the falling branches? The mere presence of man could not have been the ground of the conclusion, for a group of boys had played about the tree all summer, and after the removal the squirrel's freedom from fear in the neighborhood of human beings was often remarked. Its action in this instance resembles intelligence more than mere instinct.

RAY GREENE HULING.

Cambridge, Mass.

ST. LOUIS LIMESTONE IN POWESHIEK COUNTY, IOWA.

The St. Louis limestone described by Hall and White, and more recently by Keyes (Geol. Ia. First Am. Rep., 1892) was formerly known to occur only as far north as the eastern border of Mahaska County. Early in 1893 Bain traced this formation completely across the county in the beds of the Des Moines and South Skunk rivers, and in the North Skunk nearly to the northwestern corner. More recently several excellent exposures of this limestone have been discovered three miles above the southern line of Poweshiek County, thus extending its northern limit about ten miles beyond that previously reported. At one place nearly fifty feet of coal-measure strata were seen to rest upon the limestone. Generally, however, it was immediately overlaid with drift. Many fossils, in a fine state of preservation, were obtained from the marl which capped the rock.

ARTHUR J. JONES.

Iowa College, Grinnell, Ia.

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WANTED.—Tuckerman's Geneva Lichenum and Carpenter on the Microscope, Wiley's Introduction to the Study of Lichens. State price and other particulars. Richard Lees, Brampton, Ont.

WANTED.—Icones Muscorum by W. D. Sullivan, with or without Supplement, but both preferred. Address, stating price and condition of books, Dr. G. N. Best, Rosemont, N. J.

WANTED.—A copy of Mascart & Joubert's Lessons in Electricity and Magnetism, Vol. I. Address R. W. Clawson, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee.

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OUR GREAT WEST.—\$2.50.

THE contents of the volume appeared serially in *Harper's Magazine* and *Harper's Weekly*, in which periodicals they attracted wide attention and favorable comment. Their importance fully justified their republication in a more permanent form. The book affords a more minute insight into the present condition of the West than can be found elsewhere. What it tells is the result of personal experience, fortified by information obtained from the best-informed and most reliable men in the localities under discussion, and set forth with admirable clearness and impartiality. It is a work to be read and pondered by those interested in the growth of the nation westward, and is of permanent standard value.—*Boston Gazette*.

STATESMEN.—\$2.00.

IN the preparation of this work Noah Brooks has aimed to present a series of character sketches of the eminent persons selected for portraiture. The object is to place before the present generation of Americans salient points in the careers of public men whose attainments in statesmanship were the result of their own individual exertions and force of character rather than of fortunate circumstances. Therefore these brief studies are not biographies. Mr. Brooks had the good fortune of personal acquaintance with most of the statesmen of the latter part of the period illustrated by his pen, and he considers it an advantage to his readers that they may thus receive from him some of the impressions which these conspicuous personages made upon the mental vision of those who heard and saw them while they were living examples of nobility of aim and success of achievement in American statesmanship.

MEN OF BUSINESS.—\$2.00.

W. O. STODDARD, who has just written a book published by the Scribners, on "Men of Business," tells

how the late Senator Stanford chopped his way to the law. "He had grown tall and strong," says Mr. Stoddard, "and was a capital hand in a hay-field, behind a plough, or with an axe in the timber; but how could this help him into his chosen profession? Nevertheless it was a feat of wood-chopping which raised him to the bar. When he was eighteen years of age his father purchased a tract of woodland; wished to clear it, but had not the means to do so. At the same time he was anxious to give his son a lift. He told Leand, therefore, that he could have all he could make from the timber, if he would leave the land clear of trees. Leand took the offer, for a new market had latterly been created for cord-wood. He had saved money enough to hire other choppers to help him, and he chopped for the law and his future career. Over 2,000 cords of wood were cut and sold to the Mohawk and Hudson River Railroad, and the net profit to the young contractor was \$2,600. It had been earned by severe toil, in cold and heat, and it stood for something more than dollars.—*Brooklyn Times*.

ORTHOMETRY.—\$2.00.

IN "Orthometry" Mr. R. F. Brewer has attempted a fuller treatment of the art of versification than is to be found in the popular treatises on that subject. While the preface shows a tendency to encourage verse-making, as unnecessary as it is undesirable, the work may be regarded as useful so far as it tends to cultivate an intelligent taste for good poetry. The rhyming dictionary at the end is a new feature, which will undoubtedly commend itself to those having a use for such aids. A specially interesting chapter is that on "Poetic Trifles," in which are included the various imitations of foreign verse in English. The discussion of the sonnet, too, though failing to bring out fully the spiritual nature of this difficult verse form, is more accurate than might be expected from the following sentence: "The form of the sonnet is of Italian origin, and came into use in the fifteenth [*sic*] century, towards the end of which its construction was perfected, and its utmost melodious sweetness attained in the verse of Petrarch and Dante." In the chapter on Alliteration there are several misleading statements, such as calling "Piers the Plowman" an "Old English" poem. In the bibliography one is surprised not to find Mr. F. B. Gummere's admirable "Handbook of Poetics," now in its third edition. In spite of these and other shortcomings, which can be readily corrected in a later issue, this work may be recommended as a satisfactory treatment of the mechanics of verse. A careful reading will improve the critical faculties.—*The Dial*.

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